



State of Maine Board of Corrections

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April 28, 2009

Dear Senator Gerzofsky,
Representative Haskell,
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety,

I am writing to fulfill the Board of Corrections statutory requirement established pursuant to 34-A MRSA section 1803, subsection 10 to report on April 1, 2009 with recommendations for amending laws relating to the unified correctional system or the board.

Attached to my letter please find proposed legislation that the Board of Corrections, the Corrections Working Group and our Focus Group organizations have been working on over the last several months. This legislation is a product of a tremendous amount of collaborative work between Maine's counties and the Department of Corrections.

Additionally, the Board of Corrections has initiated the rulemaking process for determining facility use and purpose pursuant to 34-A MRSA section 1803, subsection 2. The proposed rule is also attached. Since this rule is a major substantive rule, the Legislature must review the rule before its final adoption. I am asking the committee to consider reviewing the rule during this legislative session. A bill to accomplish this review and final adoption will be submitted in early June.

I appreciate your continued cooperation in assisting the Board of Correction in this challenging process.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Neale A. Duffett
Chairman of the Board of Corrections

Enclosures

NAD/keb